

Robbie McCraw
Chairman

Ralph J. "Bob" Martin

Joe Webb



Rex Hill
Vice-Chairman

Dr. Thomas W. Littrell

Phillip McCraw

Resolution of the Carroll County Board of Supervisors

Support for Legislation Allowing the Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority (BRCEDA) and the Commonwealth of Virginia to Collaborate on Finding New Uses for the Southwest Virginia Training Center (SWVATC)

WHEREAS, in 2012 the Commonwealth of Virginia entered into a settlement with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding Virginia's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 1999 Supreme Court decision in the Olmstead case, and

WHEREAS, because of this settlement it was decided that the Southwest Virginia Training Center would close, resulting in the displacement of hundreds of patients and the loss of approximately 300 jobs, and

WHEREAS, this closure is now imminent, and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Training Center (SWVATC) has historically provided specialized medical and other services far beyond the scope of the settlement with the Department of Justice, and

WHEREAS, the state representatives of our region, notably Senator William Carrico, Delegate Jeffrey Campbell, and Delegate Israel O'Quinn, have recognized that closure of this facility presents a hardship to Southwest Virginia, due to the loss of employment, as well as the non-existence of replacement services, especially within the localities of Carroll and Grayson Counties and the City of Galax, and

WHEREAS, the campus-like layout of the facility lends itself to alternative uses that could provide improved, as well as critically needed services to the Twin County region and the Commonwealth, while at the same time resulting in enhanced employment opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the leadership of Carroll, Grayson and Galax, through their mutual participation in the Blue Ridge Crossroads Development Authority have agreed that regional pursuit of an alternate use

provides the greatest probability of success and would serve the citizens of each locality to the greatest advantage, and

WHEREAS, Senator William Carrico, Delegate Jeffrey Campbell, and Delegate Israel O'Quinn are prepared to introduce and work for the passage of legislation that would allow BRCEDA to market the SWVATC to various private healthcare and other professional services providers, while the Commonwealth remains in place as a partner and owner of record of the facility and providing the required maintenance on the property, thereby alleviating distress created by closure of the facility and the resulting loss of employment, and

WHEREAS, these representatives and the leadership of BRCEDA have agreed as a high priority concern to focus on finding a way to use the facility to house children requiring foster homes that are frequently sent to treatment facilities outside of the region, thereby reducing hardship on the children while alleviating the treatment costs incurred by local government and the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Carroll, Virginia does hereby resolve and express its support and desire for the Virginia General Assembly to enact such legislation as is necessary to permit BRCEDA to market the SWVATC to private companies in the healthcare, foster care or other appropriate and similar business in partnership with the Commonwealth.

Approved this 10th day of September 2018.

Robbie McCraw
Chairman, Carroll County Board of Supervisors

Certificate

I hereby certify that the forgoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Carroll County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting held on September 10, 2018.

Steven B. Truitt, Clerk of the Board